

## 9.2 Analyzing Hate Crimes



# HATE CRIMES

They Can Happen Anytime, Anywhere.

# Video

# What Causes Hate?

- 14 female engineering students gunned down at Ecole Polytechnique in 1989

# What causes hate?

- White Texans dragged a black man to his death behind their pickup truck in 1998

# What causes hate

- White Texans dragged a black man to his death behind their pickup truck in 1998

# What causes hate?

- “Gay- bashing” incident, which left a young man beaten and tied to a country fence post to die in a Wyoming winter



# What causes hate?

- Columbine
- Sept 11/2001
- Why do people carry such intense hate?

# What causes hate?

- Psychologists and even philosophers have struggled to explain the cause of hatred.
- For example, Aristotle observed the differences between hatred and anger.
- He said that anger is usually felt towards individuals

# What causes hate?

- After an angry outburst, a person often feels sorry for his or her words or actions
- Hatred may be directed at whole classes of people
- Seldom repentance for acts of hatred because a person really aims to negate the object of his or her intense feelings

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

- 1. The hatred is intense and impersonal**
  - Not the same as strong anger directed at an individual whom there was a previous conflict or rivalry.
  - Hatred is not directed at any one person in particular

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **1. The hatred is intense and impersonal**

- The Belfast mob didn't know anything about the school girls except their religion
- Mark Lepine ordered all of the men out of the room before he turned his gun on the women

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **1. The hatred is intense and impersonal**

- James Byrd was dragged to death because of his skin color
- Matt Sheppard met his killers at a bar bc they were looking for a homosexual
- Columbine shooters were shooting at jocks and people wearing sports hats

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **1. The hatred is intense and impersonal**

- 9/11 the hijackers were intent on killing Americans

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **2. The hatred is based on prejudice and power**

- The perpetrator has power of authority or a physical advantage over the intended victims or victims.
- Belfast- crowd of youths and adult men used rocks and bottles against women and little girls

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **2. The hatred is based on prejudice and power**

- Mark Lepine used surprise in Montreal by bursting into a school heavily armed
- Three men forcibly tied a black hitchhiker to a truck bumper

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **2. The hatred is based on prejudice and power**

- Two men intent on ‘gay bashing’ picked up one victim smaller in stature than themselves
- Columbine used an arsenal of pipebombs and guns to terrorize several hundred students

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **2. The hatred is based on prejudice and power**

- Hijackers relied on knives and bold surprise to fly commercial airliners into selected targets
- The perpetrators in all these cases acted from positions of power to last out at the objects of their hatred

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## 3. The hatred is directed at scapegoats for other frustrations

- Frustrations and the difficulties in life may be found at the center of intense hatred toward out-groups
- The out-groups selected as targets for this displaced frustration and hostility are called **scapegoats**

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **3. The hatred is directed at scapegoats for other frustrations**

- For example: in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century hundreds of blacks were hanged each year in the southern US often as a part of the cross burning rituals organized by the KKK
- Why?

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **3. The hatred is directed at scapegoats for other frustrations**

- Conducted by poor white farmers, one rung above the victim on the social ladder, for no reason other than to “keep the blacks in their place”
- The perpetrator of the 1989 Montreal Massacre left a suicide note claiming that he killed the female engineering students because they were feminists/ in their place

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **4. Genocide is an expression of national hatred**

- The greatest excesses of hatred directed against minority scapegoats are those that have been carried out by order as national policy.
- Hitler wrote a book called “My Struggle”

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **4. Genocide is an expression of national hatred**

- He blamed the Jews for failures of his own life and for the problems of Germany
- The Holocaust is the worst case of racial-cultural genocide the world has known in terms of the # of lives lost

# Four Characteristics of Hate Crimes

## **4. Genocide is an expression of national hatred**

- In 1994 Rwanda, savagely murdered 800 000 minority people and any sympathisers

# Hate Crimes and International Law

- After WWII the international community agreed that such events as the Holocaust must never happen again
- In 1948 the United Nations declared its **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**
- This was the first international statement outlining the rights and freedoms of people globally.

# Hate Crimes and International Law

- It states that every person has the right to life, freedom and security.
- No one must be treated in a cruel, degrading or inhumane way.
- International Criminal Court was set up to investigate and prosecute individuals guilty of **war crimes**

# Hate Crimes and International Law

- Crimes against humanity and genocide
- These are the most extreme crimes of hatred and are defined as follows
- **War Crimes-** murder, torture, and hostage taking of civilian nationals, and/or wide scale destruction of their property

# Hate Crimes and International Law

- **Crimes Against Humanity-** murder, torture, enslavement and deportation of innocent civilian nationals
- **Genocide-** deliberate mass murder of any national, ethnic, racial or religious groups